

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is an attachment for Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed herewith to continue prosecution following Final Office Action dated May 8, 2002. Entry of Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 filed August 6, 2002, was denied by Advisory Action dated August 13, 2002, as failing to place the Application in condition for allowance. The RCE requests entry of the Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 filed August 6, 2002, as well as this Preliminary Amendment.

Claims 1-14, 16-21, and 23-36 are all of the claims pending in the present Application. New claims 26-36 are added above.

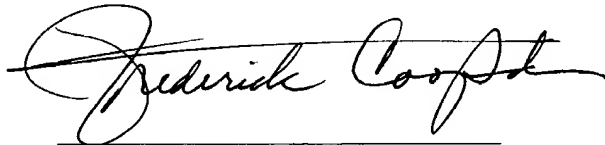
Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment in fees to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: _____

10/8/02



Frederick E. Cooperrider
Reg. No. 36,769

McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254